7. Tezpur University
8. North Eastern Hill University
9. University of Hyderabad
10. Pondicherry University
11. Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi Viswavidyalaya
12. Maulana Azad National Urdu university

The information from rest of the Universities is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Bench of High Court in Bhopal

668. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent any proposal to the Union Government for setting up a bench of High Court in Bhopal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of State capitals in the country wherein High courts or their benches have not yet been set-up; and

(d) the time by which a bench of the Bhopal High Court is likely to be set up in Bhopal?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

(c) The principal seats of High Courts or their benches are not located in the capitals of 5 States namely Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.

[English]

Declaration of Education a Fundamental Right

669. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to declare Right to Education as a Fundamental Right;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) :(a) and (b) The report of the Standing Committee on Constitution (Eighty-Third Amendment) Bill is under examination. It is felt that a wider debate on the implications of the proposed legislation should be initiated.

(c) Doss not arise.

[Translation]

Grant to Universities in Madhya Pradesh

670. DR. MAHANT CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Universities in Madhya Pradesh to whom the University Grants Commission sanctioned the Grant and the Heads under which this grant was sanctioned alongwith the amount sanctioned during the Eighth Five Year plan;

(b) the Universities in the State which have utilised the sanctioned grant;

(c) whether any complaint have been received in regard to misutilisation of grant or using the grant for some other purposes by the Universities in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon; and

(e) the details of the grant sanctioned/likely to be sanctioned to the various Universities in the State during the Ninth Plan, University-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) University Grants Commission (UGC) provides development grants to all eligible Universities, as per the prescribed norms, and subject to availability of resources, for recruitment of teaching and supportive staff, purchase of books, journals and equipment, faculty improvement and construction of women's hostels, staff quarters, campus development etc. In addition, Non-Plan grants are also provided for certain specific purposes, which include grants for payment of scholarships and fellowships in Engineering & Technology, teacher fellowship, Junior Research Fellowship, Research Associateship etc. Development grants are allocated for the Plan period as a whole and not on a year-to-year basis. Such grants are, however, released on a yearly basis depending upon the progress of implementation of various schemes/programmes and on receipt of the utilisation Certificates and statement of expenditure of earlier grants. A Statement-I showing the grants allocated to the Universities in Madhya Pradesh for the 8th Plan and the grant released so far is attached.

(c) According to UGC, no specific complaint regarding misutilisation of grants has been received.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) A statement-II indicating the grants allocated to the Universities for the 9th Plan and the grant released so far is attached.